Minutes of the Selectmen's Meeting May 26, 2015

Members present: Jim Andersen, Chairman, Lynn Sweet, and Bryant Scott

In attendance: Don Clifford

The Selectmen's meeting commenced at 6:20PM.

Bills and payroll were reviewed and payment was approved. The Selectmen reviewed and addressed correspondence as necessary. Minutes from the May 12th and 15th Selectmen's Meetings and May 12th Public Hearing were read and approved.

Don Clifford, Tasker Hill Road, began his discussion with the Selectmen by wishing them a happy summer and thanking them for everything they do. He had some questions; he and the Board addressed them one at a time.

- Don was curious about the maintenance of the Town property next to the library; the Selectmen told him they are aware that a nearby resident voluntarily mows the property.
- A situation concerning land use was briefly discussed, and Don expressed his concerns about the project as he currently understands it. The Selectmen gave assurance that the matter had been passed onto the Planning Board for review, and that as a member of the Planning Board, he would have opportunity to address the matter in that forum.
- Don expressed his ongoing concern about having more detailed minutes of public meetings.
 The Selectmen's Office will be looking into the options/legalities involved in the audio recording of Town Meeting.
- Several Fire Department matters were discussed, including an update on the Fire Chief's accreditations and daytime coverage. The Selectmen gave assurance that they are, and will be, attentive to all departments within the Town.
- Don, representing the snowmobile club, asked about repair to the gate into the dam area from Province Road. As the dam area is State owned, and the Board members suggested that the club write a letter to NHDES for permission to repair the gate.
- There was some discussion regarding signage in Town relative to the sign ordinance passed several years ago. The signage of concern is on private property, and while the signage might be considered advertising, the Town has little control over private property.
- Discussion continued with questions about the Road Agent's work on the Police Department parking lot. The Selectmen explained the budgeting process involved in the process and the scope of work to be done. They also outlined the Road Agent's yearly plan for paving Town roads. Don would not like to see a continual increase in the Road Agent's budget.
- Don had not previously been aware of a new Building Inspector. The Selectmen said that one
 of the previous inspectors had to step down due to a job change. The position had been
 properly advertised.
- Don had noted that Evans Mountain Road had been closed. The Board suggested that perhaps someone might be repairing it, but said they would look into it.
- Don spoke to the Selectmen as a member of the snowmobile club about widening some trails so that they might become part of a snowmobile corridor. No specific areas of interest were mentioned. He pointed out that this project would also assist the Fire Department in their ability to get to back land in an emergency.
- It was noted by all that a situation of concern on Water Street with activity too close to the road seems to have been addressed and has improved.

The Selectmen discussed the upcoming auction of 2 pieces of Town owned/tax deeded properties and decided to sell them by the process of absolute auction. The auction will be held in the Town Hall conference room at 10:00 on June 27, 2015. James St. Jean Auctioneers will handle the publicity and all the details of the auction.

The Town Departments have recently passed the Department of Labor Safety Inspection.

Based on a recommendation from the NHDRA and consideration of RSA 76:15 a-I, Lynn Sweet made a motion to withdraw the Board's previous decision to make adjustments to the valuations on properties with water access for the 2015 First Issue tax bill. The motion further stated that the Board would wait for the 2016 Revaluation which will make any necessary adjustments at that time. Jim Andersen seconded the motion. A vote was taken:

Jim Andersen – Aye, Lynn Sweet – Aye, Bryant Scott – Aye

Several matters pertaining to the opening of the beach were discussed. The beach staff is now complete; a fourth lifeguard has been hired and a beach manager chosen. The beach area has yet to be cleaned up. In recent years the Scouts have done this as a community service project. Someone from the Selectmen's Office will contact the Scouts to see if they are planning to clean up the beach area again this year; other possibilities for clean up were discussed in lieu of the Scouts doing it. Ongoing maintenance of the area is the responsibility of the beach staff.

Earth Mechanics will be paving the newly constructed First Crown Point bridge soon. Some details of the final stage of construction were discussed. A dry hydrant on the bridge is a Fire Department priority for a portion of the dry hydrant monies approved at the 2015 Town Meeting.

There being no further business to be brought before the Board a motion was made, seconded, and voted to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 7:40.